

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 09096 271527Z

ACTION NRC-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 SSO-00 L-03 SS-15

SP-02 PA-01 /048 W

-----271535Z 083201 /45

O R 271517Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8624

INFO ERDA WASHDC

ERDA GERMANTOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 09096

DEPT PASS TO NRC URGENTLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, GW

SUBJECT: FOIA REQUEST

REF: A. STATE 121593; B. STATE A-1977

1. EMBASSY SCIENCE COUNSELOR MET WITH DR. KELLERMANN, GRS, IN COLOGNE AND DISCUSSED DOCUMENT FORWARDED AS AN ENCLOSURE TO REF B. DR. KELLERMANN RECALLED THAT HE HAD PASSED A GERMAN-LANGUAGE VERSION OF THIS TEXT TO AN AEC CONTACT ON A "PERSONAL" BASIS. IT WAS AN EARLY DRAFT OF A REPORT PREPARED FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GERMAN STATE OF NORTH RHINE WEST-PHALIA (NRW). KELLERMANN CONTACTED NRW AUTHORITIES WHO INFORMED HIM THAT FINAL TEXT OF REPORT HAD NOT RPT NOT BEEN RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC. NRW AUTHORITIES EXPLICITLY REQUESTED THAT TRANSLATION OF EARLY DRAFT OF REPORT NOT REPEAT NOT BE RELEASED BY NRC. EMBASSY DID NOT REPEAT NOT DISCUSS THIS TOPIC WITH BMI OFFICIALS.

2. DR. SCHNURER, BMI, HAS NOT YET MADE A DECISION
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ABOUT RELEASE OF HIS JANUARY 18 TELEX. WE WILL FOLLOW UP ASAP.

3. RE REF A: SCHNURER QUICKLY GUESSED THAT "U.S. VENDOR" IS GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY. HE IS CLEARLY UNCERTAIN ABOUT ACTION WE EXPECT FROM HIM. HE CAN NOT RPT NOT APPROVE THE RELEASE OF A DOCUMENT HE HAS NOT

SEEN NOR, HE BELIEVES, DOES HE HAVE THE RIGHT TO BLOCK
RELEASE OF INFORMATION OBTAINED DIRECTLY BY USG
THROUGH "PRIVATE" CHANNELS.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: AS NOTED IN PARA 7, BONN 6753,
FRG AUTHORITIES CONSIDER THIS CURRENT FOIA REQUEST A
TEST CASE FOR THE BMI/NRC AGREEMENT FOR COOPERA-
TION. OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH FRG OFFICIALS HAVE MADE
ONE POINT CLEAR: THEY DO NOT RPT NOT WISH USG TO
SERVE AS THE SOURCE OF INFORMATION ABOUT A GERMAN
NUCLEAR POWER PLANT INCIDENT WHICH HAS NOT FOR ANY
REASON BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GERMAN PEOPLE BY THE
GERMAN GOVERNMENT. THIS RELUCTANCE IS OBVIOUSLY EVEN
GREATER WHEN THE DOCUMENTS IN QUESTION ARE INFORMAL
TRANSLATIONS OF PRELIMINARY DRAFTS AND MAY CONTAIN
TECHNICAL ERRORS. WE RECOGNIZE THE PROBLEM FACED BY
THE NRC AND OTHER USG AGENCIES. HOWEVER, IF THE FRG
IS EMBARRASSED BY THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION BY THE
USG, WE FEAR THAT THE FLOW OF TECHNICAL DATA NECESSARY
TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
MAY CEASE. WE URGE DISCRETION AND SUGGEST THAT ANY
DATA ABOUT WHICH THERE MAY BE ANY QUESTION BE FORMALLY
SUBMITTED TO THE FRG FOR FORMAL CLEARANCE.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 27-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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